


! !!! !



Chaz  
 [cvillette](https://cvillette.livejournal.com/)



<https://cvillette.livejournal.com/>  
2008-09-17 22:01:00

**MOOD:** 😞 drained

**MUSIC:** the ringing in my ears

Yeah, it was boring. Good thing you couldn't go.

...

...I *lie*.

Okay, imagine you've got this GREAT idea for a high school science fair project that examines the correlation of decibel level and rhythmic and melodic repetition to listeners' attraction to sound and their perception of it as music. But you're pretty sure if you actually demonstrate that project, you will totally get suspended for a week. Do you do it anyway?

If you answered "Yes," congratulations, you may already be in Fuck Buttons.

Two geeky guys, one long folding table, a bunch of more-or-less unidentifiable stuff (okay, there was a floor tom, and I think that might have been a baby monitor, maybe, and probably a keyboard, and a suitcase that one of the guys kept putting his hand in, possibly). Beats, long chords, series of notes. Scary noises repeated in patterns so they stopped being scary and became music. Unbefuckinglievably loud.

And the two guys hunch over their junk at opposite ends of the table, watching each other, waiting for some invisible cue, like they're playing a two-person video game and are waiting for the light to blink for "Go." Great to watch. They made me think about the nature of music. Not least because, when they were done, they just stopped. Wham. Silence. Which made me think about the nature of noise.

And a good thing, too, because you want to know where you stand on that when Mogwai starts playing.

This is the loudest band I've ever heard. They may be the loudest *thing* I've ever heard, and I've heard a handgun fired indoors.

They're so loud, by the end of the first song, I was having a full-on adrenaline reaction, complete with tunnel vision. Yes, a band that goes straight to your endocrine system. It's like standing on the runway with a DC-10 taking off right overhead.


But if Saturn V rockets sang like whales, this would be what they sounded like. Because it was incredibly musical. It was moody and dramatic and full of dynamic tension. Symphonic, if symphony orchestras could make your entire ribcage vibrate with the bass line.

Five-piece band, with a drum kit, electric bass, keyboards, guitars. (It's probably a good thing they don't use electric violin, because at that volume, one could probably vibrate the nails out of the building framing and knock the whole place down.) Awesome musicianship--the drummer and the keyboard player stood out especially for me, but they were all amazing. And tight--the band have to be paying attention all the time, to catch the dynamics and the big amazing crashes of sound, and they never put a finger wrong.

You don't dance to Mogwai. You stand there and let your molecules do it for you.

This show brought the awesome in Mothership-sized quantities.

I'll be at work tomorrow, but I may not be, you know, fully functional.

( carpe noir (<https://carpe-noir.livejournal.com/>), that comment was, James is already sold out, and so are both Old Crow Medicine Show nights. Rats! But I owe you big for recommending tonight, man.)



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[locked] Dream Journal

All right, unconscious mind. We're coming to an accommodation. If the dreams are you cleaning

Elvis doesn't live here anymore.

Hey there. Sorry about the drama. It was... it was an emotional decision, and I didn't

Poppets. Puppets. Poppet puppets. Scary.

20 comments



 [carpe\\_noir](#)

[September 18 2008, 06:31:47 UTC](#)   [COLLAPSE](#)

*...probably a good thing they don't use electric violin...*

Oh man, now I want to see a Mogwai set with Warren Ellis the musician. (Even more than the previous fantasy pair-up: Marty Willson-Piper playing with the Cult.) I caught the Nick Cave & Bad Seeds show last night out here, and much of the time his violin took the place normally used by the electric guitar. So different than what's been captured on any of the live recordings (Abattoir Blues Tour, Live Seeds, Royal Albert Hall).

Nick Cave: ...Also, Warren [Ellis] didn't play violin on this record.

Pitchfork: What did he do instead?

Nick Cave: Who knows what Warren does, really? [laughs]. He's usually off crouching in the corner working with his various instruments and things, some of which we don't even know what they are.

More old-fashioned rock-n-roll (yes, with a little punk -- I don't want to say "Birthday Party" but it's soooo tempting.) not so much of the fire and brimstone, or orchestral, or gospel choir. When he did "Into My Arms" it was so like Led Zeppelin taking a break to do the pretty ballad for the g\i\r\l\s\ chicks before going back into the rock.

I did eventually figure that post out, and I'm sorry to hear about it for you, but it's a sign that I should be able to catch both of 'em out here. For a Nashville band, OCMS sure sounds like a group from Richmond.



 [cvillette](#)

[September 18 2008, 17:28:13 UTC](#)   [COLLAPSE](#)

*Oh man, now I want to see a Mogwai set with Warren Ellis the musician.*

Ooooooooooooooooooh. Yeah.

And *Dig Lazarus Dig* is great stuff.

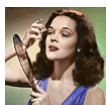


 [leahbobet](#)

[September 18 2008, 17:53:38 UTC](#)   [COLLAPSE](#)

I have a ticket to see Nick Cave when they stop off here in a few weeks.

\*huggles it\*




 [Ometotchtli](#)

[September 18 2008, 11:41:49 UTC](#)   [COLLAPSE](#)

I can still see your irises vibrating.



 [trollcatz](#)

[September 18 2008, 16:42:30 UTC](#)    [COLLAPSE](#)

Molecular structure definitely not returned to original configuration.




 [cvillette](#)

[September 18 2008, 16:48:32 UTC](#)    [COLLAPSE](#)

Pbthpbthpbth.

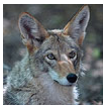
And okay, the pattern thing? I mean, that's my specialty. But I could feel them being built. It was AWESome.



 [trollcatz](#)

[September 18 2008, 19:26:43 UTC](#)    [COLLAPSE](#)

Feel them vibrating your diaphragm, it sounds like!




 [cvillette](#)

[September 18 2008, 22:43:40 UTC](#)    [COLLAPSE](#)

Soft tissue. *Bone marrow*. It was hallucinogenic.



 [pnkrokhockeymom](#)

[September 18 2008, 11:47:17 UTC](#)    [COLLAPSE](#)

ohmywow. that sounds awesome.



 [cjtremlett](#)

[September 18 2008, 12:24:43 UTC](#)    [COLLAPSE](#)

Dang.

I had a gong bath this summer, and that was amazing. From your description, this sounds like that times a thousand or so!



 [txanne](#)

[September 18 2008, 21:51:58 UTC](#)    [COLLAPSE](#)

"Gong bath." New favorite mental image!!



 [adarad](#)

[September 18 2008, 13:31:14 UTC](#)    [COLLAPSE](#)

That sounds so cool!

A friend of mine just got back from seeing Apocalyptica. He took a couple of videos, and now I so want to see them.



[talkswithwind](#)

[September 18 2008, 14:27:06 UTC](#)

[COLLAPSE](#)

Sounds like a BLAST. It also sounds somewhat like [Savage Aural Hotbed](#), only louder. Very cool.



[jennythe\\_reader](#)

[September 18 2008, 15:46:12 UTC](#)

[COLLAPSE](#)

That sounds like the awesomest concert in the history of awesome concerts. So glad you had fun.

Note to Self: Get a more general music icon!



[nebula99](#)

[September 18 2008, 16:38:08 UTC](#)

[COLLAPSE](#)

Hee - I read about Fuck Buttons last week and now I'm going to check to see if they are playing over here.

Awesome gigs are awesome.

I think the "And You Will Know us by the Trail of Dead" (not my choice, I might add) gig was the loudest I've been to. Other half saw Bitch Magnet years ago and still winces slightly at the memory.



[edschweppe](#)

[September 18 2008, 17:02:29 UTC](#)

[COLLAPSE](#)

Wow. That does sound like a tremendous time.

I managed to see the first nighttime launch of the Space Shuttle - from the VIP area, no less. (My roomie at the time was related to one of the crew.) So I know that whole-body-experience feeling.

I also know it a bit from running submarine nuclear reactors and their associated steam plants - back on the Usetafish, a flank bell was pretty damn noisy. OTOH, loud noises in general are Bad Things on submarines, so we tried not to do too much of that.



[jenavira](#)

[September 18 2008, 18:21:02 UTC](#)

[COLLAPSE](#)

*Argh* but I am jealous. We're having a huge music festival in town this weekend, but I'm staging a birthday party for a very non-music-festival-type friend who got flooded out last weekend, and besides, I have a broken foot. So I can't go. And I *miss* going out to see live music. Wah.

Oh well, the university music season is kicking in at long last, and we have some pretty terrific bands around (but nothing on the molecule-vibrating-level, I don't think. *Jealous.*)



 eljefe

September 18 2008. 19:30:02 UTC    COLLAPSE

Just listened to the track you posted in the other entry, they kinda feel like Tool, but the wave pattern has slower transitions and isn't as peaky. Very cool.



 cvillette

September 18 2008. 19:32:38 UTC    COLLAPSE

Here, try out this one:



 eljefe

September 18 2008. 19:39:56 UTC    COLLAPSE

Solid. I like.

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